

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR/East Germany/Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	East German Purchase of Bulgarian Tobacco on Instructions from CMEA	DATE DISTR.	23 March 1953
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1. A meeting of the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) took place in Moscow sometime between 16 and 23 September 1952. At the meeting, East Germany was ordered to purchase six million rubles' worth of low-grade Bulgarian tobacco, which would be manufactured into cigarettes in Dresden.
2. East German demand for cigarettes made from low-grade tobacco is negligible, and therefore the cigarettes will be exported to the USSR. East German tobacco merchants believe that the order was given by Moscow deliberately, not only to help Bulgarian tobacco producers, but also to produce large quantities of cheap cigarettes for the Soviet armed forces. East German tobacco dealers are very annoyed at the order, which temporarily prevents them from manufacturing better cigarettes for East German requirements.

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

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